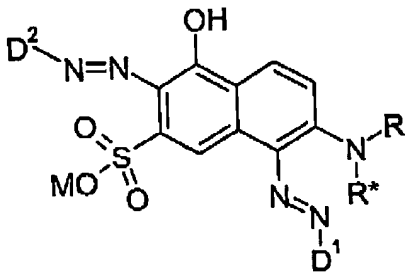
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

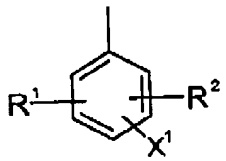
1. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as per the hereinbelow indicated and defined general formula (I),



(I)

where

D^1 and D^2 are independently a group of the general formula (1)



(1)

where

R^1 and R^2 are independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, sulfo, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amido, ureido or halogen; and

X^1 is hydrogen or a group of the formula $-SO_2-Z$,

where

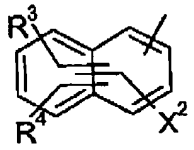
Z is $-CH=CH_2$, $-CH_2CH_2Z^1$ or hydroxyl,

where

PAGE 4/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04

Z^1 is hydroxyl or an alkali-detachable group; or

D^1 and D^2 are independently a naphthyl group of the general formula (2)



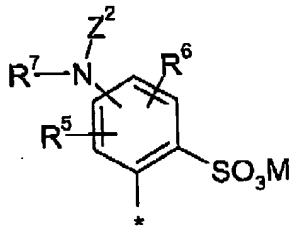
(2)

where

R^3 and R^4 are independently hydrogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, hydroxyl, sulfo, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amido, ureido or halogen; and

X^2 has one of the meanings of X^1; or

D^1 and D^2 are independently a group of the general formula (3)



(3)

where

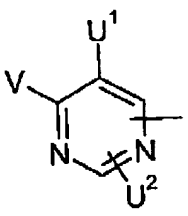
R^5 and R^6 independently have one of the meanings of R^1 and R^2;

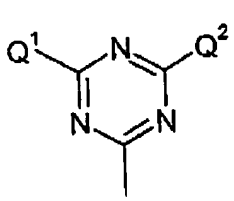
R^7 is hydrogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, unsubstituted or $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl-, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy-, sulfo-, halogen- or carboxyl-substituted phenyl; and

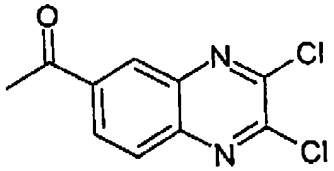
~~Z^2 is a heterocyclic reactive radical; or~~

PAGE 5/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04

Z^2 a group of the general formula (4) or (5) or (6)







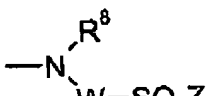
(4) (5) (6)

where

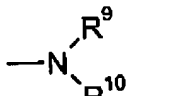
V is fluorine or chlorine;

U^1, U^2 are independently fluorine, chlorine or hydrogen; and

Q^1, Q^2 are independently chlorine, fluorine, cyanamido, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkoxy, phenoxy, sulfophenoxy, mercapto, (C_1-C_6)-alkylmercapto, pyridino, carboxypyridino, carbamoylpyridino or a group of the general formula (7) or (8)



(7)



(8)

where

R^8 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, sulfo-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or phenyl unsubstituted or substituted by (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, sulfo, halogen, carboxyl, acetamido, ureido;

R^9 and R^{10} independently have one of the meanings of R^8 or combine to form a cyclic ring system of the formula $-(CH_2)_j-$, where j is 4 or 5, or alternatively

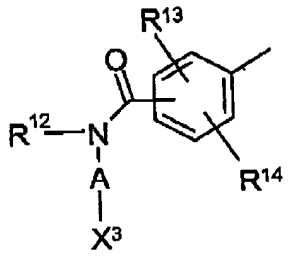
PAGE 6/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04

$-(CH_2)_2-E-(CH_2)_2-$, where E is oxygen, sulfur, sulfo, $-NR^{11}$ where R^{11} = (C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

W is phenylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents, such as (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, carboxyl, sulfo, chlorine, bromine, or is (C_1-C_4)-alkylene-arylene or (C_2-C_6)-alkylene, which can be interrupted by oxygen, sulfur, sulfo, amino, carbonyl, carboxamido, or is phenylene-CONH-phenylene, which is unsubstituted or substituted by (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, sulfo, carboxyl, amido, ureido or halogen, or is naphthylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 sulfo groups; and

Z is as defined above; or

D^1 and D^2 are independently a group of the general formula (9)



(9)

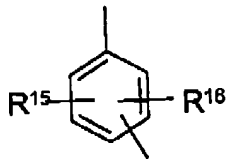
where

R^{12} is hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, aryl or a substituted aryl radical;

R^{13} and R^{14} are independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, sulfo, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amido, ureido or halogen; and

A is a phenylene group of the general formula (10)

PAGE 7/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04

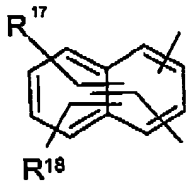


(10)

where

R^{15} and R^{16} are independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, sulfo, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amido, ureido or halogen; or

a naphthylene group of the general formula (11)



(11)

where

R^{17} and R^{18} are independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, sulfo, carboxyl, cyano, nitro, amido, ureido or halogen; or

a polymethylene group of the general formula (12)

$$-(CR^{19}R^{20})_k- \qquad (12)$$

where

k is a whole number greater than 1 and

R^{19} and R^{20} are independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, hydroxyl, cyano, amido, halogen or aryl; and

X^3 has one of the meanings of X^1; and

PAGE 8/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04

R, R* are independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl or sulfomethyl; and

M is hydrogen, an alkali metal or one equivalent of an alkaline earth metal,

with the proviso that the dyes of the general formulae (I) contain at least one fiber-reactive heterocyclic group of the general ~~formula~~ formula (4) or (6).

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) Reactive dyes as per claim 1, where the substituents R are hydrogen or sulfomethyl and R* is hydrogen.

4. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as per claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substituents R^1 and R^2 are hydrogen, methyl, methoxy or sulfo, R^{12} to R^{16} are hydrogen and R^3 to R^6, R^{17} and R^{18} are hydrogen or sulfo, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen methyl or phenyl and R^9 and R^{10} are hydrogen, methyl 2-sulfoethyl, 2-, 3- or 4-sulfophenyl, or R^9 and R^{10} combine to form a cyclic ring system which conforms to the formula $-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)_2-$.

5. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as per claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein Z is vinyl, ß-chloroethyl or ß-sulfatoethyl.

6. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as claimed in ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein Q^1 and Q^2 in the general formula (5) are independently fluorine, chlorine, cyanamido, morpholino, 2-sulfophenylamino, 3-sulfophenylamino, 4-sulfophenylamino,

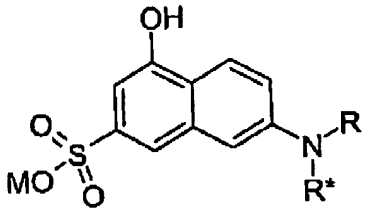
PAGE 9/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04

3-(2-sulfatoethylsulfonyl)phenylamino, 4-(2-sulfatoethylsulfonyl)phenylamino, 3-(vinylsulfonyl)phenylamino, 4-(vinylsulfonyl)phenylamino, N-methyl-N-(2-(2-sulfatoethylsulfonyl)ethyl)amino or N-phenyl-N-(2-(2-sulfatoethyl-sulfonyl)ethyl)amino.

7. (Previously presented) A process for preparing dyes of the general formula (I) as per claim 1, which comprises diazotizing one equivalent of an amine of the general formula (16)

$$D^1 - NH_2 \quad (16),$$

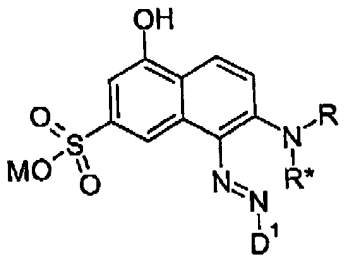
where D^1 is as defined in claim 1 and the resulting diazonium compound being reacted in a first stage with an aqueous solution or suspension of one equivalent of a coupling component as per the general formula (17)



(17)

where R, R* and M are each as defined in claim 1, to form a monoazo dye as per the general formula (13)

PAGE 10/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04



(13)

and subsequently one equivalent of an amine of the general formula (18)

$D^2 - NH_2$ (18),

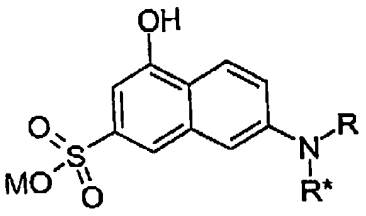
where D^2 is as defined in claim 1, being diazotized and the resulting diazonium compound being coupled in the second stage with the monoazo dye of the general formula (13) obtained in the first stage to form the disazo dye of the general formula (I).

8. (Currently amended) The process for preparing dyes of the general formula (I) as per claim 1 in the event that the groups D^1 and D^2 as per the general formulae (I) have the same meaning by two equivalents of an amine of the general formula (16)

$D^1 - NH_2$ (16),

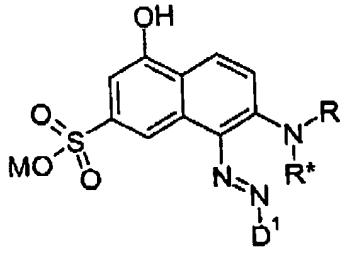
where D^1 is as defined in claim 1 which comprises diazotizing and reacting in a first stage with one equivalent of a coupling component of the general formula (17)

PAGE 11/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04



(17)

to form a monoazo dye of the general formula (13)



(13)

and the second coupling to the disazo dye of the general formula (I) where the groups D^1 and D^2 have the same meaning being carried out subsequently.

9. (Previously presented) An aqueous liquid preparation containing a dye as set forth in claim 1 at a level of 5-90% by weight.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as per ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, where the substituents R are hydrogen or sulfomethyl and R* is hydrogen.

12. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as per claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the substituents R^1 and R^2 are hydrogen, methyl, methoxy or sulfo, R^{12} to R^{16} are hydrogen

PAGE 12/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04

and R^3 to R^6, R^{17} and R^{18} are hydrogen or sulfo, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen methyl or phenyl and R^9 and R^{10} are hydrogen, methyl 2-sulfoethyl, 2-, 3- or 4-sulfophenyl, or R^9 and R^{10} combine to form a cyclic ring system which conforms to the formula $-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)_2-$.

13. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as per claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein Z is vinyl, ß-chloroethyl or ß-sulfatoethyl.

14. (Currently amended) Reactive dyes as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein Q^1 and Q^2 in the general formula (5) are independently fluorine, chlorine, cyanamido, morpholino, 2-sulfophenylamino, 3-sulfophenylamino, 4-sulfophenylamino, 3-(2-sulfatoethylsulfonyl)phenylamino, 4-(2-sulfatoethylsulfonyl)phenylamino, 3-(vinylsulfonyl)phenylamino, 4-(vinylsulfonyl)phenylamino, N-methyl-N-(2-(2-sulfatoethylsulfonyl)ethyl)amino or N-phenyl-N-(2-(2-sulfatoethyl-sulfonyl)ethyl)amino.

15. (Previously presented) A process of dyeing or printing hydroxyl- and/or carboxamido-containing fiber material.which comprises contacting the reactive dyes as per claim 1 with said material.

PAGE 13/15 * RCVD AT 5/26/2006 3:43:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/16 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:302 661 2331 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-04